

Mr. Bowser's War on Rats

By M. QUAD

FOR many months a door with a pane of glass in it which had once belonged to a cupboard had reposed in a shed of the Bowser house. Mrs. Bowser had asked Mr. Bowser a score of times to carry it down cellar and get it out of the way, and, though willing enough, he had kept putting it off. After dinner on a late evening she said to him:

"Mr. Bowser, the cook wants to clean out the shed. That old door is still there, and if you can't carry it down cellar tonight I shall hire the first tramp that comes along tomorrow."

So Mr. Bowser took it down with a look on his face like a martyr going to his doom and leaned it up against the wall opposite the door of the hot air furnace.

It is one of the duties of the Bowser cook to descend to the cellar before going to bed to shovel some coal into the firebox and see that all drafts are tightly closed. She went down, as usual, on this evening. Suddenly a scream rang through the house, and the cook was heard coming upstairs like a runaway horse, gasping and screaming at every step. Mr. Bowser sprang to his feet and exclaimed:

"Woman, what in the name of heaven ails you? Did you see a ghost down cellar?"

"Oh, sir, worse than that! I won't stay in this house another hour! I saw a—rat!" she gasped out with a great effort. "He almost ran over my foot, and I think he tried to bite me as he passed. If you have got rats in this house I can't stay here. Indeed, I can't!"

"Maggie, you can go up to your room, and Mr. Bowser will go down and see if there was a rat," said Mrs. Bowser. "If a rat has made his way into the cellar he must be routed out at once."

"Yes, I'll go, and I'll rout him," bravely replied Mr. Bowser. "It's just possible that a rat might have got in here while the coal hole was open when we got the last ton of coal, but I think it will prove only imagination."

Mr. Bowser proceeded downstairs, whistling as he went. When he got down there he found the gas jet still burning, and, with the help of a few matches, he explored every nook and corner of the cellar. No rats and no sign of rats! The cook had imagined it all. He was about to turn out the light and ascend the stairs when a big rat ran past him like a flash. He had not brought



GAVE A JUMP AND A GASP.

a club or any other weapon with him, and, with a wild yell, he jumped for the foot of the stairs. Mrs. Bowser was standing at the head of the flight, and she called out:

"What is it? What is it?"

"It's a rat, sure enough!" was the reply. "The girl was right!"

"But why didn't you kill him?"

"I—I dunno. I expect he startled me."

"But you take that fireplace poker and go down again and brain him. If you don't kill him, if you can't find him look for the place he got in at and stop it up with something."

"I'll have his life!" was the resolute rejoinder as Mr. Bowser got his nerve back. "I wonder if I hadn't better take the cat down with me?"

"Yes. Here she is."

With the cat under one arm and the poker in the other hand Mr. Bowser descended again, but he was not whistling this time. He put the cat down on the cement floor and again started a search of the cellar when—dash—dash—dash, and the rat ran past him as before. This time his size appeared to be that of a cat. Mr. Bowser gave a jump of alarm, but did not conduct himself as before. He walked upstairs to say to Mrs. Bowser:

"That damned old rat is running about the cellar, but don't tell Maggie. There must be a hole somewhere that I can't find. I will stop and order two or three traps in the morning and bait them when I come home."

On the way downtown he stopped at a hardware store and ordered six rat-traps at 50 cents apiece, and that night they were baited for victims. Next morning they were still baited. The rats had not been fooled into such traps as those.

That evening Mrs. Bowser accompanied Mr. Bowser down cellar to see if the traps were all right. They were. She was standing in front of the furnace, and he was prowling around when she thought she saw a rat run past her. She gave a jump and a gasp and next broke out into laughter.

She had seen that when the gas jet was turned full on it cast flickering shadows on the glass pane of the old cupboard door exactly opposite. This was the cook's rat and Mr. Bowser's rat. Mr. Bowser came over to her and soon convinced himself that he had been fighting shadows.

"You and the cook," began Mrs. Bowser after another outburst of merriment, "had better—"

"Stop!" exclaimed he as he raised the poker to emphasize his word. "The blamed old door is all to blame for my mistake! Don't you dare to bully me about this now or hereafter!"

And Mrs. Bowser, not looking for trouble, has not even said a word to the cook about rats—great big rats, rats with menacing looks, rats that cost Mr. Bowser \$3 and then had not been captured.

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An Alphabet of Girls

A IS for affable Annie,
Who is younger, they say, than
her granny.
Now, that I can't tell,
As I don't know her well,
But, anyhow, A is for Annie.

B IS for beautiful Bella,
Who brought back a borrowed
umbrella.
Though the tale you may doubt,
I've no way to find out,
But I'll bet you that B is for Bella.

C IS for cultured Clarissa,
And some one attempted to
kiss her.
Still, I vow and declare,
And I'll solemnly swear
That certainly C's for Clarissa.

—Life.

PERIL IN GARDENING

THE worthy couple sat side by side on the broad doorstep, looking, we wotted, as miserable as two lost geese in a hard hailstorm. We asked why they were so sad in view of the fact that the sun shone brightly and the birds swayed on the adjacent boughs.

"Alas!" they answered. "We have been making garden. Both of us are somewhat absentminded, and after thinking it over we fear that Samuella has planted the liver pills and Horace has taken the sweet peas. However, we are not absolutely sure about it, and it is the uncertainty that hurts."—Kansas City Star.

BIBLE STUDY for High School Credit

By Mrs. C. F. Menninger.

LESSON 35.

Review for Passion Week and the Forty Days.

1. To what part in this study, does Passion Week belong? The Forty Days?
2. How much time covered by the two?
3. Name three leading events in the temple treasury?
4. Make one statement for the "Upper Room" experience.
5. Name one event for each day of Passion Week.
6. What was the result of the cleansing of the temple?
7. What purpose had Jesus' enemies in asking him questions?
8. Why were they so long in bringing

their real purpose to destroy Christ, to a climax?

9. What did Jesus call the scribes and Pharisees?
10. What was Jesus' lament over Jerusalem, and where did he find it?
11. What incident occurred in the temple treasury?
12. What great thought in connection with the Gentiles seeking Jesus?
13. What occasioned the discourse given on the Mount of Olives?
14. What attitude did Jesus urge upon his followers for all time and occasions?
15. What directions did Jesus give for keeping the Passover?

CHURCH NOTICES

(These notices must be in the State Journal office by 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon. Unless otherwise noted in this column services will be held at 11 o'clock in the morning and 8:00 o'clock in the evening.)

First United Presbyterian church, Eighth and Topeka avenues, Edgar P. Smith, pastor. Morning sermon, "A Mother's Day Dream." Evening subject, "Doing Versus Feeling."

Central Congregational church, Huntoon and Buchanan streets, Chas. M. Sheldon and Willis Goldsmith, pastors. Morning sermon subject, "Christ at Work." Evening, special Mother's Day service with music by the ladies double quartet and violin solo by Miss Gladys Gaw. Sermon subject, "First Leaves in Auto-Biography."

Reformed Presbyterian church, 920 Clay street, C. A. Dadds, minister. Morning sermon subject, "Christian Joy." Evening, "The Transfiguration."

Parkdale Free Methodist church, 124 Lake street, E. R. Ford, pastor. Preaching by Evangelist E. H. Edwards morning and evening. Evangelistic services each night next week.

First German M. E. church, Fifth and Tyler streets, A. J. Ross, pastor. The Rev. R. D. Winkler of Arley, Mo., will preach morning and evening. Morning service at 10:45 o'clock. Celebration of the Lord's supper after the morning sermon.

German Evangelical St. Paul's church, Third and Hancock streets, G. H. Krueger, pastor. Preaching service in the morning.

Central Avenue Christian church, Grant and Central avenues, L. H. Beck, pastor. Morning sermon subject, "A Tribute to Mother." Mother's Day program in the evening.

East Side M. E. church, Seventh and Lime streets, J. F. Youngman, pastor. Morning, annual thank offering service of the W. F. M. S. Miss Winnifred Willard of Denver will speak. Evening, anniversary program of the Epworth League.

Second United Brethren church, Fifth and Leiden streets, M. L. Robey, pastor. Morning sermon subject, "A Tribute to Mother." Mother's Day program in the evening.

Lowman M. E. church, Eleventh and Morris avenues, W. M. Balch, pastor. Morning, Mother's Day sermon by the pastor. Evening, report of congregation census on the practice of family prayer with remarks by the pastor.

Central Park Christian church, Sixteenth and Central Park avenue, R. P. McPherson, minister. Communion and sermon in the morning. Subject, "Pleading for Prayer." Evening, "The One Duty."

Evangelical association, Fourth and Monroe streets, B. H. Hobbs, pastor. Morning service at 10:45 o'clock. Sermon subject, "Honoring Mother." Evangelistic service in the evening. Observation of Mother's Day.

Pentecostal Assembly, State and Twiss avenues, C. E. Foster, pastor. Preaching at 3 o'clock and in the afternoon. Communion in the afternoon. Baptism in the morning at Division and Forest avenues. Evangelist S. H. Booth Clifton will attend.

Spiritualist Temple Builders, 122 East Sixth avenue. Meeting at 7:30 o'clock in the evening. Messages. Lecture by J. H. Fouch, "Our Mothers and Their Love."

First Congregational church, Seventh and Harrison streets, Arthur S. Henderson, D. D. pastor. Morning sermon subject, "What Have They Seen in House?" Evening, "Overtaking Sins."

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Huntoon and Polk streets. Lesson sermon subject, "Mortals and Immortals." Wednesday evening meetings with testimonials of Christian Science healing.

Third Christian church, Third and Lake streets, H. Jas. Crockett, pastor. Morning, Mother's Day service with Bible school program and sermon. Evening sermon subject, "Stumbling Blocks." A five minute talk regarding Billy Sunday's refusal.

Church of the God Shepherd, North Quincy and Leiden streets, J. C. Petrie, pastor. Morning, prayer and address. Evening, evensong and sermon.

Third Presbyterian church, Fourth and Branner streets, S. B. Alderson, D. D. pastor. Mother's day service in the morning. Sermon subject, "His Mother's Crown." Evening, "Our Friends in White."

Second United Presbyterian church, Huntoon and Fillmore streets, W. M. Jackson, pastor. Morning sermon subject, "Christian Motherhood." Evening, "God's Plan Best."

Potwin Presbyterian church, Fifth and West streets, H. L. Nelson, pastor. Preaching services morning and evening.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church, Second and Van Buren streets,

P. D. Mueller, pastor. German services at 10:30 o'clock. English services in the evening.

Kansas avenue Methodist church, J. E. Scheer, pastor. Morning sermon subject, "Development of Faith." Evening, Epworth league anniversary and Mother's day services with an address by Dr. D. M. Flisk, of Washburn college.

West Side Christian church, Mrs. Clara H. Hazeltine, pastor. Morning sermon subject, "What Would Mother Say?" Evening, "Excuses." Music directed by C. O. Price.

Seward avenue Baptist church, Seward avenue and Grattan street, F. W. Wittenbraker, pastor. Mother's day will be observed in the morning. Evening subject, "A Father's Desire for His Boy."

Wesleyan Methodist church, Third and Jefferson streets, T. J. Pomeroy, pastor. Special music and sermon for Mother's day in the morning. Evening sermon subject, "Sin, Its Origin and Who is Responsible."

First Christian church, 628 Topeka avenue, O. Cook, minister. Morning sermon subject, "The Sorrows of Jesus." Evening, "How Much Do We Owe?"

First Presbyterian church, Eighth and Harrison streets, Stephen S. Estey, D. D. pastor. Morning sermon subject, "The Wages of Motherhood." Evening, the Rev. J. H. Fazel will preach. Subject, "The Imperial Christ."

Walnut Grove Methodist church, Sixteenth and Harrison streets, E. W. Spencer, pastor. Mother's day service in the morning. Dr. Homer F. Work, pastor of the First Methodist church of Winfield, will preach on the subject, "The World War and Foreign Missions."

North Topeka Baptist church, W. Garnett Handley, pastor. Morning, "Mother's Day." Evening subject, "A Young Man's Indebtedness to His Mother." Special program at each service.

Second Presbyterian church, North Jackson and Gordon streets, Joseph P. Hicks, pastor. Special Mother's day program in the morning. Evening sermon subject, "The Ideal Man."

Seabrook Congregational church, Nineteenth and Highland avenues, Robert D. Bussey, pastor. Morning sermon subject, "My Mother." Evening, service in charge of the Christian Endeavor society.

First Baptist church, Robert Gordon, pastor. Regular services morning and evening.

First Methodist church, Sixth and Harrison streets, Benjamin Young, D. D. pastor. O. J. Bowman of Portland, Ore., will occupy the pulpit. Morning subject, "The Margin of Safety." Evening, continuation of the illustrated series on "The Life of Christ."

PORCH BOX GOOD FEATURE.

Professor Ahearn Advocates Raising of Plants About the House.

Manhattan, Kan., May 13.—The attractive porch box is a feature of gardening that is too often overlooked, in the opinion of M. F. Ahearn, associate professor of horticulture in the Kansas State Agricultural college.

"Plants in boxes of this kind can be successfully grown by any housewife," says Mr. Ahearn, "and the increased beauty of the porch more than pays for the time and labor spent in caring for these boxes. They are within the reach of all and it does not require any great outlay of work or money to secure a well arranged and ornamental porch box."

Kings in the earliest days were merely the "fathers of families," and the word is derived from the same source as "kin."

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS

Only so far as a man believes strongly can he act cheerfully, or do anything that is worth doing.—Robertson.

Where you see no good, silence is best.—Anon.

The Worldly Hope men set their hearts upon Turns Ashes—or it prospers; and anon, Like Snow upon the Desert's dusty Face, Lighting a little hour or two, is gone.—Fitzgerald.

No pleasure is comparable to standing upon the vantage ground of truth.—Frances Bacon.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth Him that sent me, hath eternal life, and cometh not into judgment, but hath passed out of death into life.

—John 5:24.

Our best is bad, nor bears Thy test Still, it should be our very best.—Browning.

Tomorrow is not, yesterday is not, Today alone is—and today is thine.

—Ina Coolberth.

OD SUBJECT IN NEW DRESS

How to Interest the School Child in His Work

Is Discussed in Superintendent Wilson's New Book.

MOTIVATION OF SCHOOL WORK

Fit the School to the Pupil Is His Idea.

Instead of Putting the Little One Into a Groove.

When Johnny or Mary come home tired from school, don't place the blame on too long hours or overstudy. Conclusive experiments prove that they are tired because their school work has not been of interest to them. The interested student comes home as briskly as he left.

This is one of the new educational discoveries told of in Superintendent Wilson's new book, "The Motivation of School Work." The age-old problem of interesting the child in school is attacked, and one is inclined to say, solved in Wilson's new book. The book is a pioneer in educational literature.

Wilson's "open sesame" to the mind of the child is the word "motivation." It is almost impossible to arouse the interest of the child in a routine course of study, and one is inclined to say, solved in Wilson's new book. The book is a pioneer in educational literature.

The problem of the school is stated by Superintendent Wilson thus: "The work of the schools seek to engage the child is not significant to him. It does not satisfy the needs which the individual child experiences and awakens. The textbook is the preachment that Wilson offers. Plan the school work so that it will excite the motives which influence children of the grade school age."

List of Motives.

Following are the motives which are compelling to the young child, according to Wilson's book: 1. Earning money and acquiring property; 2. competing for results, a reward, or an honor; 3. making things; 4. entertaining; 5. sharing; 6. advancing one's self; 7. estimation of others; 8. playing games; 9. promoting self-development; 10. preserving products and collections; 11. mastering and conquering.

The greater part of the book is given over to practical illustrations of the use of these motives in school work. The first four chapters discuss the present status and need in education, gives the meaning of motivation, discusses the psychological basis of motivation and analyzes the origin and sources of motives. The succeeding chapters take up the motivation of the different studies.

In many cases the illustrations of successful motivation are drawn from the Topeka schools. In his chapter on geography he tells of the imaginary aerial trip across the world taken by the upper-grade pupils in Topeka, Kansas. The Topeka State Journal published the map showing the proposed airship route open to all competitors and starting from the grounds of the Panama-Pacific exposition in May, 1915. Prizes of three hundred thousand dollars were offered.

It Interested the Children.

The scheme so interested the children that more was accomplished in geography during the "Journey" than in many cases previous. In addition the children were asked to write of their journey or compose imaginary letters from different places touched in their flight, furnishing a fine exercise in English and grammar. According to Superintendent Wilson the Topeka public library was thronged with children eagerly reading all they could find about airships, and estimating the distances between stops and working out the details as to sights along the route. The work was more thoroughly covered than in weeks of strict routine of geography lessons.

The book is a mine of practical suggestion in interesting the child and making the school work take on the significance that it should in the child's life. Wilson gives due credit to the psychologists and philosophers, John Dewey, for the first expression of the idea of motivation, yet to the Topeka man belongs the credit of its first analysis and full development.

The book is the product of nine years' work on the part of Superintendent Wilson and his brother, Guy Wilson, of Iowa State university. It is published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Two men who stammered considerably met one day and began a conversation. They were proceeding with considerable difficulty, when one of them remarked:

"D-d-d-o you s-s-s-stutter all the t-t-t-time?"

"N-n-n-no," replied the other, "only when I t-t-t-try to t-t-t-talk."

HE DROPS INTO VERSE

Attorney in Horse Trade Case Asks for a New Trial.

Let men say what'er they will, Woman, woman rules them still. And when a lady's in the case, You know all other things give place.

That's the refrain Maurice Murphy, an attorney, adds to his motion for a new trial in a horse trading case. He makes it a part of his motion. The motion is filed today in the court of Topeka. The case is that of Ed Vilven against Arthur White.

Vilven and White traded ponies and Vilven complained that the pony White had represented as being sound, had heaves. He brought suit in the court of Topeka to nullify the deal. Mrs. Vilven was brought into the case and testified for her husband's side of it. Vilven says it is because of Mrs. Vilven's testimony and her entrance into the case that Attorney Murphy breaks into poetry in his motion for a new trial.

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